

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/966,902

Examiner

Kristie D. Shingles

Applicant(s)

HIROTA, MAKOTO

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/1/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2, 6, 8, 9 and 30-32.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

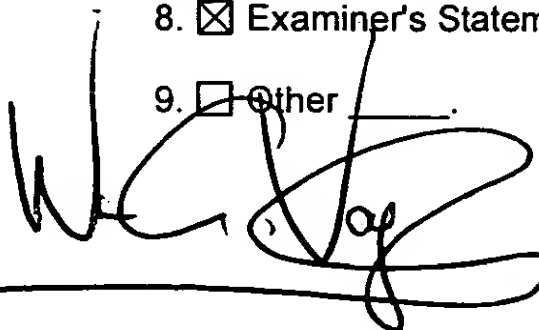
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 1/2/08.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



kds/20080102

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendments

Claims 2, 8 and 9 have been amended.
Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10-29 and 33 have been cancelled.
Claims 2, 6, 8, 9 and 30-32 are pending.

Per Examiner's Amendment

Claim 9 is amended.

Claims 2, 6, 8, 9 and 30-32 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

I. Applicant's arguments (see Remarks pages 7-10 filed 11/01/2007) with respect to Claims 2, 8 and 9 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of the pending claims have therefore been withdrawn.

Examiner's Amendment

II. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

III. Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Atty. Sungho Hong on January 2nd, 2008. Please make the following change to Claim 9:

- **Claim 9:** On line 1, replace "readable medium" with—*storage medium*—.

Reasons for Allowance

IV. This communication warrants no Examiner's reason for allowance, as Applicant's reply makes evident the reason for allowance, satisfying the record as whole as required by rule 37 CFR 1.104 (e). In this case, the substance of Applicant's comments in the Remarks filed on 11/01/2007 with respect to the claimed limitations sufficiently present the reasons claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Thus, the reason for allowance is in all probability evident from the record and no statement of an Examiner's reason for allowance is necessary (see MPEP 13202.14).

The claimed invention is not specifically disclosed or remotely suggested in the prior art of record. A review of Claims 2, 6, 8, 9 and 30-32 in view of the Examiner's remarks above, indicates that Claims 2, 6, 8, 9 and 30-32 are allowable over the prior art of record.

V. Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

VI. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Kristie Shingles whose telephone number is 571-272-3888. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the

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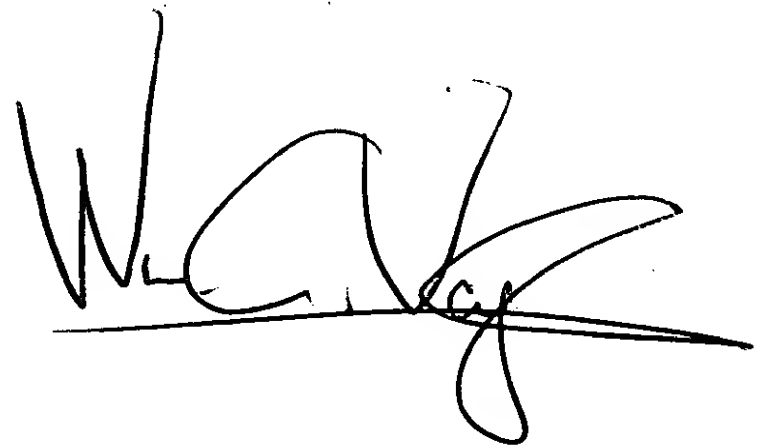
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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kristie D. Shingles
Examiner
Art Unit 2141

kds

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. A. [unclear]', written over a horizontal line.